

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): An isolated protein, comprising an the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1, or a salt thereof.
2. (currently amended): An isolated protein, consisting of an the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1, or a salt thereof.
3. (canceled).
4. (currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide, comprising a polynucleotide encoding the protein comprising an the amino acid sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1.
5. (original): The polynucleotide according to claim 4, which is DNA.
6. (currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide, consisting of a the nucleotide sequence ~~represented by~~ of SEQ ID NO: 2.
7. (previously presented): A recombinant vector, comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 5.
- 8-16. (canceled).
17. (previously presented): A kit for screening a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits the activity of the protein or its salt according to claim 1, which comprises the protein or its salt according to claim 1.
- 18-36. (canceled).